

We want the Federal workers to go back to work. We want our constituents served. Republicans and Democrats in this House want a balanced budget, and we can do it by ending the gridlock, by having the President meet us halfway. The budget he gave us previously was \$265 billion out of balance. Let us have a budget that truly balances, one that is going to be providing services to our people without bankrupting the Nation or the next generation.

BIPARTISANSHIP NEEDED TO RESOLVE IMPASSE

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take up the call of the gentleman from South Carolina. I think it is time for us to work in a bipartisan manner, and I have offered House Joint Resolution 155 that would open this Government by a continuing resolution, provide our employees that are furloughed an opportunity to come back to work and provide the services to the American people, and as well to pay the Government and to operate the Government at 90 percent funding.

I am very proud to say that I have been joined by Members GENE GREEN, AL WYNN, JAMES CLYBURN, BENNIE THOMPSON, PATSY MINK, EVA CLAYTON, TOM FOGLIETTA, LOUISE SLAUGHTER, EARL HILLIARD, CLEO FIELDS, DONALD PAYNE, XAVIER BECERRA, CORRINE BROWN, ROSA DELAURO, JIM MORAN, ALCEE HASTINGS, JOE KENNEDY, JOHN LEWIS, PATRICK KENNEDY, SANFORD BISHOP, LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, TOM BARRETT, HAROLD VOLKMER, and PAT SCHROEDER. We are all concerned that we work in a bipartisan manner to do what the American people have sent us here to do, to have this Government operating and, yes, work to balance the budget with the priorities that will benefit all of us who are Americans. I hope my colleagues will allow this to come to the floor today.

CREDIBLE WHITE HOUSE PLAN NEEDED TO END SHUTDOWN

(Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, we have heard from the President that this shutdown in the Federal Government has been caused by freshman Republicans. I rise as a 5-term Republican who on many occasions has broken with my party to support the President on labor and environmental issues. But I will not break ranks with our party in this case, because the credibility of this administration in my mind is at question. I think the Philadelphia Inquirer, Mr. Speaker, summed it up best in their lead edi-

torial today entitled, "Your Turn, Bill." I will read the last paragraph, Mr. Speaker.

Congress should pass stopgap funding as soon as the President provides the missing ingredient of serious bargaining: a credible White House plan to balance the budget in 7 years.

To my liberal friends, I would say the Philadelphia Inquirer is not exactly a bastion of conservation politics. I would urge this President and my liberal friends to heed the advice of the Philadelphia Inquirer, and I will join with them in supporting a stopgap CR when this President lives up to the commitment of his words a few weeks ago.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD the editorial mentioned earlier.

YOUR TURN, BILL

"Enough is enough." That was the gist of Bob Dole's argument for passing a new, stopgap funding bill, even though there's no deal yet on a balanced budget. The partial shutdown is a wasteful exercise that could have ended yesterday if House Republicans hadn't rejected the idea.

Yet Newt Gingrich & Co. can rightly shout "enough is enough" at President Clinton. In the agreement that ended a shorter shutdown in November, the President promised a serious plan to balance the budget in seven years. The country is still waiting for his plan.

House Republicans have rejected short-term funding—and taken the heat for it—out of a legitimate concern that federal businesses-as-usual lessens pressure on Mr. Clinton to bargain seriously.

So the stalemate drags on.

The most aggrieved folks are nearly half a million "essential" workers in unfunded departments and agencies: They are being forced to work but won't be paid until Congress and the President agree on funding. Yesterday, a federal judge turned down the plea of two unions to bar the government from making their members work without pay.

No matter how this fiasco plays out, requiring people to work with out pay is fundamentally unfair. How would Republican lawmakers like to work without pay? They voted that idea down in the House, as Majority Whip Tom DeLay got all huffy about how he wasn't a federal employee, but "a constitutional officer." Well, la-dee-dah, Mr. DeLay.

Another 260,000 "nonessential" workers are missing paychecks, but at least they're getting time off—and have been promised back pay for doing nothing: Ridiculous?

There's a middle way out of this morass that's less stubborn than the House GOP, but doesn't let Mr. Clinton off the hook as Mr. Dole did.

Congress should pass stopgap funding as soon as the President provides the missing ingredient of serious bargaining: a credible White House plan to balance the budget in seven years.

LET YOUR PEOPLE GO

(Mr. FARR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise as a Member from the delegation of the great State of California. This is the

State that is proud to lead this Nation in environmental, educational, and economic policy.

Unfortunately, it is also the State that showed that a legislative branch of government can bring Government to a halt by not adopting a budget on time. California's partisan politics delay the State budget year after year. However, never was it this bad.

Congress is now in its fourth month. We have been here more days, taken more votes, and spent more hours on the floor and accomplished less than any other Congress in history. Congress was unable to make the October 1 fiscal deadline. It is internationally embarrassing.

Mr. Speaker, give us back our Nation. Let your people go. Vote for a clean CR and get Government back to work.

AS THE POLLS TURN

(Mr. SCARBOROUGH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, let our people go? The Speaker and this House have bent over backwards. We have passed two balanced budget plans, we have passed appropriation bills.

The President vetoed the first balanced budget plan in a generation. The President has vetoed the Interior bill. The President has vetoed bills that would get funding for veterans' affairs, for HUD, for the Environmental Protection Agency.

This truly is the do-nothing President. His people are telling him at the White House, "Do nothing, stand in the road, block progress, fight a balanced budget at all costs. That is what you need to do, Mr. President. Be firm, do nothing, and your poll points will go up."

Maybe they will. I really do not care whether his poll points go up or not. The fact of the matter is we have put on the table the first balanced budget in a generation, and if the President wants to continue standing in the way of that, fine. We are going to balance this budget with or without him.

REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO ADDRESS HOUSE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I be given 30 seconds to ask the gentleman a question.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The Chair would inform the gentleman that we are in 1-minutes. If the gentleman would be so inclined, if he has not given a 1-minute, he may get in line.

ANOTHER VICTIM OF SHUTDOWN

(Mr. EDWARDS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)